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ER: 6-4842

6 January 1955

MEMORANDUM FOR: General Counsel
Director of Security
Auditor-in-Chief
Comptroller
Chief, Logistics Office
Chief, Medical Staff
Chief, Management Staff
Chief, Project Administrative Planning Staff

SUBJECT : General Mark Clark Task Force

1. The "Need to Know" principle applicable to subject Task Force in its review of CIA is that the details of covert operations will be revealed only to designated members of the Committee and Staff. These individuals are General Clark and Colonel Lane. Accordingly, Colonel Lane is the only Staff member who has had access to the DD/P area.

2. Examination of the DD/A area, however, is being done collectively by Colonel Lane, Colonel Miller and Mr. McGruder. While it is not possible to make a clear cut distinction between "overt" and "covert" in the DD/A area, it is necessary to apply the above principle, in so far as possible, in presenting briefings, in answering questions, in furnishing illustrative examples of problems and accomplishments, and in permitting the examination of records and materiel.

3. It is important that these precautions be applied with reason in order not to obscure the scope and complexity of the functions of the DD/A components as well as to insure that Colonel Miller and Mr. McGruder receive all of the information they need to properly perform their duties with respect to activities other than those of a covert nature. The following guide rules are suggested:

a. Do not disclose the identities of individuals, organizations or corporations involved in the conduct or support of covert operations.

b. Do not identify the names of sensitive projects, their specific objectives or the countries in which conducted.

c. Do not demonstrate highly classified items of "special" equipment or materiel used in support of covert operations.

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d. When essential or desirable to factually illustrate problems and covert support techniques, do so with abstract examples.

e. If questions are asked or if records are called for which cannot be given without violation of these principles, Colonel Miller, Colonel Lane, and Mr. McGruder will all understand that we are permitted to go into these details without restriction with Colonel Lane only.

/s/

L. K. WHITE
Deputy Director
(Administration)

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